

(3) *Re: DAMAGE TO PADDY CROPS BY FLOODS OF BELLARY NALLA IN BELGAUM TALUK.*

Sri D. DEVARAJ URS (Minister for Transport and Tourism).—I will reply to Call attention of Sri Sayanak on behalf of the Revenue Minister.

Sri B. B. SAYANAK (Belgaum).—I call the attention of the Minister for Revenue and Forests to the damage caused to paddy crops by the floods of Bellary Nalla in Belgaum Taluk.

Sri D. DEVARAJ URS.—Bellary Nalla which has got its origin near Yallurgad, Taluka Belgaum, passes through the village limits of Madhavapur, Vadgaon, Khanagaon Bk., (Budruk), Khanagaon Kh. (Khurd), Belgaum, etc., in Belgaum Taluka. On both the sides of the Nalla there are fertile paddy lands and the Khatedars of these lands have encroached upon the bed of the nalla and at some places the Nalla has been diverted to suit their conveniences. If the width of the nalla has narrowed down due to encroachments and also on account of the deposit of silt, the nalla water does not flow freely but spreads in the fields on either side during the rainy season. Due to over flooding, the paddy lands on either side of the nalla get submerged and thereby crops thereupon are damaged every year. Submergible area by floods during monsoon would be about 1000 acres as estimated by the Executive Engineer, Belgaum.

2. The question was discussed in 1961 by the Deputy Minister for P. W. D. with the Chief Engineer (General) Bangalore, and the Chief Engineer was requested to take action in the light of the discussion and to forward the revised plans and estimates to Government. The Deputy Commissioner, Belgaum, was also requested by Government to expedite the survey of the nalla and the encroachments made on it. The Deputy Minister for P. W. D. had also discussed this question at the time of his visit to Belgaum on 9th January 1962 with the Executive Engineer, Belgaum, and the Rayats of Madhavapur, Vadgaon, etc., and the following decisions were arrived at the meeting .—

(1) If there was encroachment on either side of the Nalla, the occupants of the lands concerned agreed to remove the encroachment voluntarily;

(2) If any additional land was required for reconstruction of the nalla, the occupants of the adjoining lands agreed to part with the land voluntarily and;

(3) The persons assembled agreed that they would assist Government authorities to the maximum extent possible for the restoration of the course of the nalla.

In the meeting a committee consisting of the following five persons. was also formed for co-operating with Government authorities for the reconstruction of the nalla :

- 1 Sri N. A. Hanamannavar, Angol.
- 2 Sri Baburao Godholi, Angol.
- 3 Sri Parisappa B. Sheri, Belgaum.
- 4 Sri V. K. Patil, Nandihalli.
- 5 Sri S. I. Gondawadkar, Sarpanch, VPC. Madhavapur.

A meeting of the said Committee was held on 15th February 1962 under the Chairmanship of the then Deputy Commissioner and in the said meeting the following points were considered :—

(i) The depth and width of the nalla should be restored so as to canalise the flow of water and to prevent damages to the adjoining fields.

(ii) To remove the encroachments on either side of the Nalla. As regards point No. (i) the cost of the work was estimated at Rs. 12.5 lakhs. The Committee suggested that this expenditure could not be paid by the beneficiaries in lump sums, that the amount together with the interest thereon, might be recovered in convenient instalments from the beneficiaries and that if any grant was received from the Central Government under the Flood Control Relief Scheme or otherwise it should be appropriated for this work and only the balance should be recovered from the beneficiaries. The non-official members Sarvashri Gondawdkar, Hanumannavar and Sheri said in the meeting that they would consult all the beneficiaries and obtain an undertaking in writing from them that the entire cost would be paid by them in easy instalments to be fixed by Government and that they would hand over the undertakings so taken from the beneficiaries to the Deputy Commissioner. After the receipt of the undertakings, the matter was to be reported to Government. Shri Hanamannavar sent the undertaking obtained from the beneficiaries of Angol village on 3rd April 1962. Shri Gondawadkar gave in writing on 26th June 1962 that the entire cost of the scheme should first be borne by Government and the beneficiaries would pay $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the cost later on in suitable instalments. Nothing was heard from Shri Sheri. The Village Panchayat, Angol, suggested that the expenditure on the scheme should be borne by the State Government as well as the Central Government. No further meeting of the Committee was held in the matter.

Pending removal of encroachments, the Tahasildar of Belgaum has leased out the encroached areas to the encroachers concerned on eksali basis.

On local enquiry it is ascertained that an extent of 580 acres of land on both banks of Bellary Nalla is annually affected by the floods. All this area is sown under paddy crop and approximately paddy crop

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in half of this area is damaged or destroyed every year. The approximate value of the paddy crop damaged or destroyed every year is about Rs. 24,000. The Deputy Commissioner, Belgaum, has reported that as a result of heavy rains recently this year damage has been caused to about 700 acres.

A scheme for the training of the nalla at a cost of 12.50 lakhs had been thought of earlier. But this scheme was dropped as it was found to be not feasible.

The alternative is to get the encroachment on both the sides of the nalla removed and to allow the free flow of water during the rainy season. The Deputy Commissioner has reported that action is being taken to evict encroachers over a distance of 6 to 8 miles.

The encroachers are not entitled to any relief from Government. However the question of giving some relief by way of remission of land revenue will be examined.

10-00 A. M.

(4) Re: HUNGER STRIKE OF WORKERS OF THE N.G.E.F.

Sri S. S. SHETTAR (Hubli).—On behalf of myself and Sriyuts, Bola Raghuram Shetty, S. Chandrakanth, N. Lakayya Naik, M. S. Krishnan, V. N. Patil and S. Gopala Gowda, I call the attention of the Minister for Home and Labour to the Hunger Strike of the workers of N. G. E. F.

Sri M. V. RAMA RAO (Minister for Home and Labour).—Regarding the fast described as Satyagraha, I would like to make this statement.

There are two unions in the New Government Electric Factory Ltd., Bangalore, viz. (1) N. G. E. F. Emyloyees ' Union; and (2) N. G. E. F. Workers' Union. The N. G. E. F. Emyloyees' Union is the older one and is recognised by the management.

The N.G.E.F. Workers' Union has raised the following two demands:

- (i) Transport facilities
- (ii) Interim relief.

As regards demand No. (i), the Union has stated that the workers are coming to work spot from places from more than 15 miles away from the Factory and there is dire necessity of providing transport facilities. The Management have stated that it has clearly been made known to the workers even prior to their appointment that the management will not undertake to provide transport for the workers. Further, they have no funds to provide such facilities. Most of the workers are coming by City Bus Service and the management have requested the M. S. R. T. C. authorities to extend the terminus of the City Bus Service from Ulsoor